

PATENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

No amendments to the claims are being made.

1. (Currently Amended) A dishwasher dispensing assembly for dispensing an additive during a wash cycle of the dishwasher, said dispensing assembly comprising:
a reservoir for holding the additive;
a dispenser actuator configured to selectively open an outlet of said reservoir upon movement of said actuator; and
a shape memory wire adapted to contract in length upon application of an electric current thereto and to elongate upon interruption of the current thereto, said shape memory wire being connected to said actuator for causing movement of said actuator by contraction of said wire; and

the dishwasher dispensing assembly further including first and second reservoirs having first and second dispenser actuators, respectively, and first and second shape memory wires adapted to contract in length upon application of an electric current thereto and to elongate upon interruption of the current thereto, said first and second shape memory wires being connected to said first and second actuators, respectively, for causing movement of said actuators by contraction of said wires, each said shape memory wire having a first end connected to a fixed anchor and a second end connected to one of said actuators, one of said first and second actuators comprising a lever for rotating a shaft, said lever being connected to one of said shape memory wires, and the other of said actuators comprising a plunger valve having a stem connected to the other of said shape memory wires.

2-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher dispensing assembly of claim [[1]] 10, ~~said shape memory wire having a first end connected to a first fixed anchor and a second end connected to a second fixed anchor, and said actuator~~ said actuators connected to said shape memory wire in nonlinear alignment between said first and second ends.

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8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher dispensing assembly of claim [[7]], 13 ~~including first and second reservoirs having first and second dispenser actuators, respectively; and first and second shape memory wires adapted to contract in length upon application of an electric current thereto and to elongate upon interruption of the current thereto, said first and second shape memory wires being connected to said first and second actuators, respectively, for causing movement of said actuators by contraction of said wires, each said shape memory wire having a first end connected to a first fixed anchor and a second end connected to a second fixed anchor, and said first and second actuators connected to said first and second shape memory wires, respectively between said first and second ends of said wires, in non linear alignment with the respective ends thereof~~

11-12. (Cancelled)

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13. (Currently Amended) ~~The dishwasher dispensing assembly of claim 12, A~~
dishwasher dispensing assembly for dispensing an additive during a wash cycle of the
dishwasher, said dispensing assembly comprising:

a reservoir for holding the additive;

a dispenser actuator configured to selectively open an outlet of said reservoir upon
movement of said actuator;

a shape memory wire adapted to contract in length upon application of an electric
current thereto and to elongate upon interruption of the current thereto, said shape memory
wire being connected to said actuator for causing movement of said actuator by contraction of
said wire; and

the dishwasher dispensing assembly further including first and second reservoirs having
first and second dispenser actuators, respectively, and first and second shape memory wires
adapted to contract in length upon application of an electric current thereto and to elongate
upon interruption of the current thereto, said first and second shape memory wires being
connected to said first and second actuators, respectively, for causing movement of said
actuators by contraction of said wires, one of said first and second actuators comprising a
lever for rotating a shaft, said lever being connected to one of said shape memory wires; and
the other of said actuators comprising a plunger valve having a stem connected to the other of
said shape memory wires.

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14. (Original) A dishwasher dispensing assembly, comprising:
a detergent reservoir for holding detergent to be dispensed during a washing cycle;
a detergent dispenser actuator including a lever configured to open an outlet of said detergent reservoir upon movement of said lever;
a rinse agent reservoir for holding rinse agent to be dispensed during a washing cycle;
a rinse agent dispenser actuator including a valve having a stem configured to open an outlet of said rinse agent reservoir upon movement of said stem; and
first and second shape memory wires adapted to contract in length upon application of an electric current thereto and to elongate upon interruption of the current thereto, one of said shape memory wires being connected to said detergent dispenser actuator for causing movement of said detergent dispenser actuator by contraction of said one of said wires, and the other of said shape memory wires being connected to said rinse agent dispenser actuator for causing movement of said rinse agent dispenser actuator by contraction of said other of said wires.

15. (Original) The dishwasher dispensing assembly of claim 14, at least one of said shape memory wires having one end thereof connected to a fixed anchor and another end thereof connected to one of said actuators.

16. (Original) The dishwasher dispensing assembly of claim 14, at least one of said shape memory wires having one end thereof connected to a first fixed anchor and a second end thereof connected to a second fixed anchor, and one of said actuators connected to said at least one of said shape memory wires intermediate said first and second ends and in nonlinear alignment between said first and second ends.

17-21. (Cancelled)